

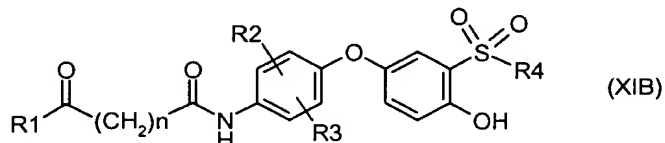
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

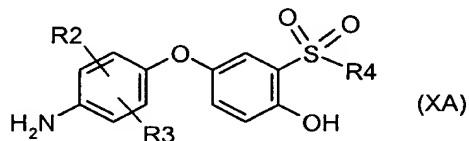
1-27. (cancelled)

28. (previously presented) A method for the preparation of a compound of the formula



in which R_1 is hydroxy, R_4 is optionally substituted alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl; R_2 is hydrogen, halogen or lower alkyl; R_3 is halogen or lower alkyl; and n represents zero or an integer from 1 to 4; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; which method comprises:

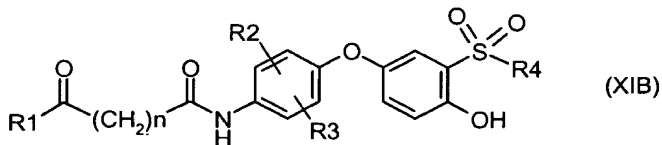
(a) condensing the amine of the formula



with a reactive functional derivative of an acid, said acid being a carboxylic acid of the formula



in which R_1 is optionally substituted alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aralkoxy, cycloalkoxy or heteroaralkoxy; and n has meaning as defined for formula XIB to obtain a compound of the formula

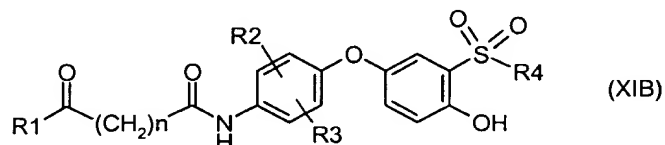


in which R_1 is as defined for formula XIII, and R_2 , R_3 and R_4 have meanings as defined for formula XIB; and

(b) hydrolyzing the compound of formula XIB in which R_1 is optionally substituted alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aralkoxy, cycloalkoxy or heteroaralkoxy to obtain a compound of formula

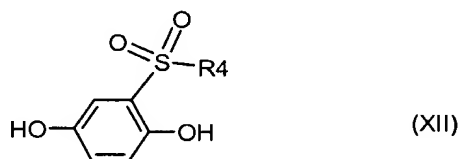
XIB in which R1 is hydroxy, and R2, R3, R4 and n are as described above; and if desired converting a said compound of formula XIB in which R1 is hydroxy to a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. (previously presented) A method for the preparation of a compound of the formula

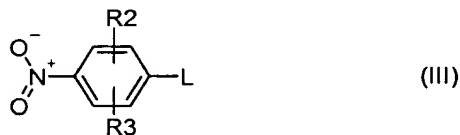


in which R1 is hydroxy, R4 is optionally substituted alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl or heteroaralkyl; R2 is hydrogen, halogen or lower alkyl; R3 is halogen or lower alkyl; and n represents zero or an integer from 1 to 4; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; which method comprises:

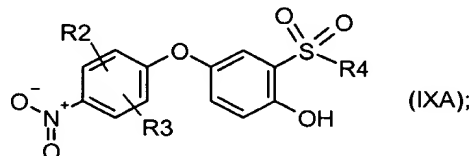
(a) reacting a compound of the formula



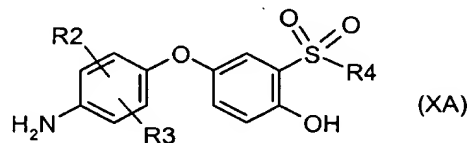
in which R4 has meaning as defined for formula XIB with a compound of the formula



in which L is trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy, chloro or fluoro, and R2 and R3 have meanings as defined for formula XIB to obtain a compound of the formula



(b) converting the nitro compound of formula IXA to a corresponding amine of the formula

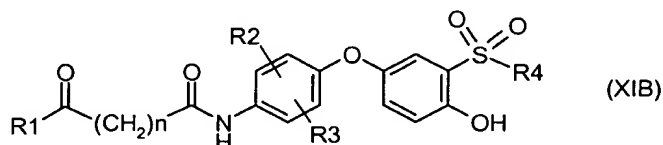


in which R2, R3 and R4 have meanings as defined for formula XIB;

(c) condensing the amine of formula XA with a reactive functional derivative of an acid, said acid being a carboxylic acid of the formula



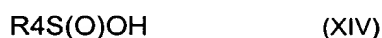
in which R1 is optionally substituted alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aralkoxy, cycloalkoxy or heteroaralkoxy; and n has meaning as defined for formula XIB to obtain a compound of the formula



in which R1 is as defined for formula XIII, and R2, R3 and R4 have meanings as defined for formula XIB; and

(d) hydrolyzing the compound of formula XIB in which R1 is optionally substituted alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, aralkoxy, cycloalkoxy or heteroaralkoxy to obtain a compound of formula XIB in which R1 is hydroxy, and R2, R3, R4 and n are as described above; and if desired converting a said compound of formula XIB in which R1 is hydroxy to a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30. (original) The method according to claim 29, wherein the compound of formula XII in step (a) is prepared by reacting 1,4-benzoquinone with a sulfinic acid of the formula



in which R4 is as defined in said claim.

31. (original) The method according to claim 29, wherein the sulfinic acid of formula XIV is prepared by reducing a compound of the formula

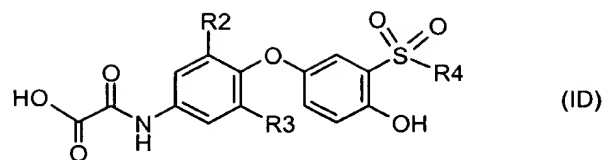


in which R4 is as defined in said claim.

32. (cancelled)

33. (original) The method according to claim 29, wherein R4 is aryl and n represents zero, 1 or 2.

34. (original) The method according to claim 29 for the preparation of a compound of the formula



in which R2 is hydrogen, methyl or chloro, R3 is methyl or chloro, and R4 is monocyclic aryl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

35. (original) The method according to claim 34, wherein R4 is phenyl optionally substituted by lower alkyl, halogen, lower alkoxy or trifluoromethyl.

36. (cancelled)

37-43. (cancelled)